



***COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA***  
*Office of the Attorney General*

Robert F. McDonnell  
Attorney General

900 East Main Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219  
804-786-2071  
FAX 804-786-1991  
Virginia Relay Services  
800-828-1120  
7-1-1

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: ADRIENNE FEGANS**  
Program Operations Administrator  
Department of Medical Assistance Services

**FROM: ELIZABETH A. MCDONALD**  
Special Counsel to DMAS

**DATE: May 16, 2007**

**SUBJECT: Emergency Regulation concerning Acute and Long Term Care Services**

I have reviewed the attached emergency regulations that would expand managed care operations over “un-managed” populations and integrate acute and long-term care coordination for the elderly and certain persons with disabilities.

Based on that review, it is this Office’s view that the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (“DMAS”), acting on behalf of the Board of Medical Assistance Services pursuant to Va. Code § 32.1-324, has the authority to promulgate these regulations, subject to compliance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Administrative Process Act and has not exceeded that authority.

The authority for this emergency action is found in Va. Code § 2.2-4011, which provides that an “emergency situation” is a “situation in which Virginia statutory law, the Virginia appropriation act, or federal law requires that a regulation shall be effective in 280 days or less from its enactment...” The amendments to the regulations will enable the Director, in lieu of the Board of Medical Assistance Services, to comply with Item

302 M.1 and M.2 of the *2006 Acts of Assembly*, which directs DMAS to “...seek federal approval of changes to its MEDALLION waiver and its Medallion II waiver. In order to conform the state regulations to the federally approved changes and to implement the provisions of this act, the Department shall promulgate emergency regulations to become effective within 280 days or less from the enactment of this act...”

Accordingly, with the prior approval of the Governor, these regulations will qualify for the “emergency” exemption from Article 2 requirements. Please be advised, however, that under Va. Code § 2.2-4011(A), the Department must state in writing the nature of and necessity for such emergency action, and this appears to have been accomplished in the “Agency Background Document.” In addition, the regulations shall be effective for no more than twelve months. As the Department intends to continue regulating the subject matter governed by this emergency regulation beyond 12 months, it will be necessary to replace these emergency regulations with regulations duly promulgated under Article 2 of the APA. A Notice of Intended Regulatory Action relating to the proposed replacement regulations must be filed with the Registrar within 60 days of the effective date of the emergency regulations (and it appears that this has been done). The proposed replacement regulations must be filed with the Registrar within 180 days after the effective date of the emergency regulations.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at 786-3890.

cc: Kim F. Piner  
Senior Assistant Attorney General